pollution recovery mechanism. Various other measures including making appropriate legislative changes to deal with the emergency situations have also been recommended.

Land management in major ports

*150. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has written to the Indian Ports Association to prepare a comprehensive information system on land management pattern in major ports of the country;

(b) if so, whether response has been received from the association;

(c) if so, the concrete measures and steps his Ministry is considering to take to improve the major ports in the country;

(d) whether all the State Governments concerned have to provide more land, etc. for development of ports; and

(e) whether the Union Government has approved Rs. 1008 crores for development of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R BAALU): (a) and (b) The Union Ministry for Shipping has requested Indian Ports Association (IPA) to evaluate the online system of land management of Tuticorin Port Trust. The Tuticorin Port Trust has recently introduced an online system to monitor and handle its land in order to bring transparency which includes digitization of all plots of land with its status and classification, automatic generation of alert message and online request for processing. The Indian Ports Association has been asked to evaluate this online system and make necessary study, if it is workable, so that it could be implemented in all major Port Trusts.

(c) Improvement/modernization of ports is a continuous process where various projects are taken up by the individual ports based on their requirement and forecast. The Department of Shipping has formulated a National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) for modernization of the Port sector of facilitate enhanced private investment, improve service quality and promote competitiveness. Under the NMDP, 276 projects have been identified in the port sector for implementation in the Major ports which are to be taken up in a period from 2004-05 to 2011-12. These projects cover the entire gamut of activities in the port sector which include berth development, deepening of channel, procurement of equipment and port craft, rail/road connectivity and other associated work. Till date 36 projects of the port sector with total cost of Rs.3930 crores have been completed under NMDP.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

National highway development in NER

*151. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government is planning to spend Rs. 25,000 crore for development of National Highways in North Eastern Region (NER);

(b) if so, the details and the break up thereof, sector-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the proposed four-lane highway under State Capital connectivity is yet to materialize;

(d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(e) if not, the factual status thereof, sector-wise;

(f) whether some part of the proposed four-lane road is planned keeping two lanes apart with a gap of 1 km.; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government has approved upgradation/improvement of identified stretches of National Highways, State roads, General Staff roads and strategic roads in parts of North East as per the details given below:

Sl. No.	Programme	Length (in km)	Estimated cost (Rs. in crore)
1.	4 laning of National highways from Srirampur to Silchar under National Highway Development Project-II (East-West Corridor)	678	6000
2.	Phase 'A' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North East (SARDP-NE)		
	(i) Approved for execution	1400	4185
	(ii) Approved 'in - principle'	974	10013
	(iii) Critical stretches of NH-31A	Yet to be estimated	100
3.	Preparation of detailed Project Reports under phase 'B' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North East (SARDP-NE)	6433	Investment on construction to be approved by Government.
4.	4-laning of National Highway stretches connecting the State capital towns of Manipur, Mizoram and Agartala under National Highway Development Project-III on Build Operate Transfer (Toll) basis – approved 'in-principle'	706	Detailed project reports are under preparation

(c) to (e) The status of 4 lane connectivity to the State capital towns of North Eastern States is given below:

Sl.No.	State Capital	Status
1	2	3
1.	Itanagar	4-lane connectivity to Itanagar with East West corridor at Nagaon has been approved by the Government on 24/07/2008 with target of completion on March, 2013.
2.	Guwahati	Already connected by 4-lane highway through East West (EW) corridor.
3.	Shillong	It is proposed to connect Shillong with East West corridor at Jorabat by upgrading existing NH-40 to four lane standard under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP-NE) Phase 'A' for the portion from Jorabat to Barapani, request for qualification of bidders on buid operate transfer (Annuity) basis is to be re-invited by National Highway Authority of India and the portion from Barapani to Shillong steps have been taken to prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR).
4.	Kohima and Imphal	To connect Kohima with East West corridor at Doboka, 4-laning of NH-36 from Doboka to Dimapur is included under National Highway Development Project (NHDP-III) and 4-laning of NH-39 from Dimapur to Kohima is included as part of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP-NE) Phase 'A'. In order to connect Imphal with East West corridor, the 4-laning of NH-39 from Kohima to Imphal is included in NHDP-III. NHAI has taken up preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR). The target of completion is March, 2013.
5.	Aizawl	Upgradation of NH-54 from Silchar to Aizawl has been included under National Highway Development Project (NHDP-III) to connect Aizawl to East West corridor by upgraded 4 lane facility with target for completion in March, 2013.
6.	Agartala	To connect Agartala with East West corridor at Jorabat, 4 laning of Jorabat to Barapani, is included in SARDP—NE Phase 'A'. Barapani to Jowai is connected with 2—lane Shillong bypass (included in Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP—NE)

1	2	3
		Phase 'A') and also Barapani is connected to Jowai through Shillong and in this way the 4—lane connectivity from Barapani to Jowai is proposed to be established. Further, 4 laning from Jowai to Churaibari is included under National Highway Development Project (NHDP-III) and Churaibari to Agartala is included under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North East (SARDP-NE) Phase 'A'. NHAI has undertaken the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) from Jowai to Agartala.
7.	Gangtok	There is no proposal to upgrade NH—31A connecting Gangtok to 4 lane standards. However, an alternate 2 lane highway (in addition to NH 31A) has been approved by the Government.

(f) The project preparation exercise has not been completed and therefore, it is too early to indicate the details of the alignment of 4—lane.

(g) Does not arise.

Stamp on Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha

*152. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assured that release of postal stamp of Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha during his Birth centenary is under process;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to release such a postal stamp by 20th January, the last day of centenary celebration; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Posts will issue a commemorative postage stamp on Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha in 2009. As per the request of government of Assam, the stamp will be released on 31st January, 2009 on the Centenary Day of Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha.

(c) Does not arise.

Salary to coaches and selectors

*153. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coaches and selectors of Hockey hold honorary positions and are not entitled for salary for their services;